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State Sustainability



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This newsletter is part of a quarterly series published by the Massachusetts State Sustainability Program, which works to minimize the environmental impacts resulting from state government operations.

For more information on the Program, please visit: <http://www.mass.gov/envir/Sustainable>

Creative Recycling Programs See Economic and Environmental Results

Shattuck Hospital Resource Management Contract Picks up Steam

In place for more than 2 years, the Resource Management waste contract at the Department of Public Health's Shattuck Hospital is now showing steady improvements in the amount of waste recycled, money saved, and time efficiencies. Through an innovative contract with "Save that Stuff," the Shattuck now shares savings with its waste hauling vendor that result from increased recycling.

Over the past two years, the Shattuck reduced its waste disposal costs by more than \$14,000, and **increased its recycling rate fivefold** from 14 tons to over 80 tons, with projected totals of more than 118 tons in 2006. These improvements are the result of efforts to expand recycling to include cardboard, leaf and yard waste, wood pallets and scrap metal, as well as from a reduction in the number of pick-ups for trash each week. For more information, contact the Shattuck's Tom Campbell at 617-971-3438 or Thomas.campbell@state.ma.us.

Department of Correction Implements Agency Wide Recycling Program

During Fiscal Years 2002-03, the Department of Correction (DOC) successfully implemented an agency-wide recycling program at 18 prison facilities housing more than 10,000 inmates. Through assistance from the State Sustainability Program, DOC purchased five cardboard balers, a paper shredder, and various recycling equipment, resulting in the agency-wide recycling of cardboard, white and mixed office papers, tin and aluminum cans, and HDPE plastic, as well as an expansion of food waste, wood, metal, tires, and electronics recycling efforts.

Over the past two years, DOC has seen a dramatic **increase in recycling rates, from 19.8% in 2004 to over 31% in 2005**. Along with the 930 extra tons recycled, DOC has reduced its waste generation by almost 400 tons. The revamped waste program at DOC has also led to significant economic savings: **Waste charges have decreased by more than \$200,000 over the two years!**



The New Cardboard baler at
Lemuel Shattuck hospital

Resource Management Workshop

EOEA, DPH and DEP are sponsoring a **FREE solid waste management workshop for health care facilities** to explain the benefits of Resource Management solid waste contracting.

The workshop will be held on **April 28, 2006 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the Shattuck Hospital in Boston.

To learn more or RSVP: call/email:

Nicholas Oliver @ 617-292-5627 or
nicholas.a.oliver@state.ma.us

UMass Boston Goes Compostable

In spring of 2006, the University of Massachusetts Boston took significant action to reduce waste by substituting paper food ware that can be composted in all campus cafeterias instead of the polystyrene materials normally used. According to Aditi Pain, Campus Sustainability Coordinator, the switch to compostable plates, bowls, trays and cups all over the campus will divert more than 7 tons a year away from the waste stream. "Not only are we reducing our environmental impact and promoting green purchasing," said Pain, "the students, faculty and staff love the new program!"

Pain notes that the use of compostable bags will also make the collection and transportation of organics efficient and less wasteful both on campus and at local composting facilities.



The DEP 6th Organics Recycling Summit, held on March 1st, brought 213 attendees from 14 states to Marlborough to visit with 19 exhibitors, learn about smart business strategies, innovative public-private partnerships and compost quality needs of buyers and sellers.

DEP Banning the Disposal of Certain Construction and Demolition Debris

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has amended its solid waste regulations to add asphalt pavement, brick, concrete, metal and wood to its list of materials banned from disposal effective July 1, 2006. After this date, these materials will be restricted or prohibited from disposal, or transfer for disposal at landfills, waste transfer stations and municipal waste combustors (note: wood is exempt from the ban at municipal waste combustors). For more information, please go to:

<http://mass.gov/dep/recycle/solid/regs0201.htm>



Mattresses collected at state schools end up in an El Salvador Orphanage

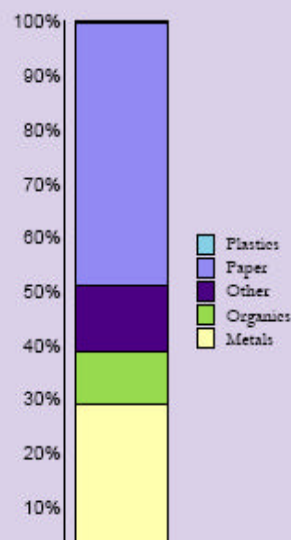
College Campus Furniture Donations

In 2004, 10 state colleges and universities **donated over 900 tons of used furniture to 8 countries** around the world through a program coordinated by the Institution Recycling Network (IRN). The program sent over 21,000 furniture items such as desks, dressers, mattresses, beds, chairs, etc. to villages, orphanages and schools in rural and poor areas in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, the Ukraine, Haiti, the United States, Guyana, and Jamaica. The cost to donate this furniture was 20% less than disposal, saving the state schools over \$50,000. **For more information, contact the IRN at 603-229-1600.**

2004 GHG Reductions by Commodity

Commodity	Volume of Waste Prevented and Recycled (pounds)	GHG Reductions (MTCE)
Paper	4,180,800	2,090.13
Metals	1,263,517	1,258.31
Plastics	77,096	16.41
Organics	3,902,000	415.79
Other	2,499,022	530.68
TOTAL	11,922,435	4,311.32

GHG Reduction by Commodity (in MTCE)



Waste Reduction in Mass. Govt. Reduces Air Emissions

Following the submission of 2004 recycling data to the U.S. EPA WasteWise Program, the State received a report outlining the emissions reductions resulting from its waste reduction efforts. The elimination of more than 4,000 tons of greenhouse gases is equivalent to emissions from 3,104 cars driving for one year or 1.6 million gallons of gasoline.

Recycling & Waste Hot links:

DEP Recycling Information: <http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle>
MassRecycle: <http://www.massrecycle.org/>
Institution Recycling Network: <http://www.ir-network.com/>
EPA WasteWise Program: <http://www.epa.gov/wastewise>
National Recycling Coalition: <http://www.nrc-recycle.org>

Upcoming events:

State Sustainability Council Mtg.
 April 11th 10-12 @ 100 Cambridge St.
Resource Management Workshop
 April 28th 9-1 @ Shattuck Hospital

The State Sustainability Program Newsletter is published by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary. For more information, contact Eric Friedman, Director of State Sustainability, eric.friedman@state.ma.us or Ian Finlayson, State Sustainability Program Manager ian.finlayson@state.ma.us